

dedicated service. Comprised of 94,000 men and women, the Naval Reserve is an integral part of the United States military force.

Authorized on March 3, 1915 by the Naval Appropriations Act, the U.S. Naval Reserve is one of the world's largest and most well trained forces. Originally intended to be comprised of former active duty sailors, the Naval Reserve now consists of former officers, former enlisted men and women and volunteers. This gives them their reputation of being the military force that brings the best "Bang for the Buck."

Mr. Speaker, our Naval Reserve brings tremendous contributions to our Armed Services and our Nation. As a former Naval Reserve Officer, it is with great pride that I extend my most heartfelt thanks for their 84 years of dedication and service.

THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH ACCESSIBILITY ACT

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, today, Congressman DAVID PRICE and I are introducing the Congressional Research Accessibility Act to make Congressional Research Service (CRS) products available to the public on the Internet. Senators MCCAIN, LEAHY, LOTT, ABRAHAM, ENZI and ROBB are introducing similar legislation in the Senate.

Under this bill, CRS will post Issue Briefs, Reports, and Authorization and Appropriation products to a centralized web site no earlier than 30 days and no later than 40 days after the information is made available to Members of Congress through the CRS web site. Through a link on their own web pages, Members of Congress and Committees may provide the public with access to the information stored on this centralized site. The 30-day delay will ensure that CRS has carried out its primary statutory duty of informing Congress before making the information available for public release. Also, it will allow CRS to verify that its products are accurate and ready for public release.

The bill requires the Director of CRS to make the information available in a practical and reasonable manner that does not permit the submission of comments to CRS from the public. The Director of CRS is responsible for maintaining and updating the information made available on the centralized site and shall have sole discretion to edit that information for the purposes of removing references to employees of CRS, removing information which may cause copyright infringement and ensuring the information is accurate and current. Members of Congress will still be able to make confidential requests which will not be released to the public.

Congress has worked to make itself more open and accessible to the public. The Congressional Research Accessibility Act will enable us to further engage the public in the legislative process and fulfill one of our missions as legislators to better educate our constituents.

A TRIBUTE TO DENNIS BYDASH, CUYAHOGA COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Dennis Bydash is proud to note that he has risen from the very bottom of the office of Gerald E. Fuerst, Clerk of Courts, who nominated him for this award, to the very top. Starting in 1972 as a filing clerk, hired for a 90 day period, he has, in almost 27 years, been given 6 promotions and now serves in a key leadership position as the Office Manager of the Civil Division, where he supervises over 100 employees and acts as the liaison between the Clerk's office and the 57 judges who depend on the Clerk's office and the offices of the County Prosecutor, the County Sheriff and the County Auditor.

To Dennis, the most rewarding aspects of his service in the Clerk's office is to see a smile on the face of an individual or to receive a thank you directly or through a letter to Mr. Fuerst. He recognizes that the Justice Center can be cold and intimidating to the average citizen and works hard to see that the Clerk's office helps that average citizen when it can or that it directs the individual to the appropriate office in the justice system.

Dennis is also active in his local community. He has participated in insuring that the Broadway neighborhood received a new fire station. He has served as President of his Ward's Democratic club for 16 of the last 18 years. He has volunteered in many political campaigns from the Congressional to the local level.

Beyond that, Dennis is an avid photographer and student of railroading, with a large collection of memorabilia, including thousands of his own pictures of railroads, some of which have been published. He is happy also to grow vegetables in his garden and can them.

Dennis recalls fondly a 1977 inquiry on the filing of a divorce from a young lawyer during the midst of accusations by some lawyers that the Clerk's office's employees, in helping the public, was practicing law without a license. Despite his fear that the question might be part of that effort, he helped the lawyer, in his own words "in a somewhat hard way." Just over two years later, he and that lawyer, Michael Tyner married, and they recently celebrated their 18th anniversary.

COMMEMORATE THE ACHIEVE- MENTS OF MARCIA YUGEND

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today. Marcia Yugend, a well respected leader in the Twin Cities Jewish community, lost her life February 3, 1999. A native of Little Falls, Minnesota, Yugend was a remarkable community leader who will

be missed dearly by many in the Twin Cities' religious communities with whom she worked tirelessly to promote interfaith harmony across the globe.

Yugend founded Feminists in Faith, a group of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Muslim women who worked together to promote women's religious issues and interfaith understanding. In 1985, Yugend created the Jewish Women-Palestinian Women Dialogue and later created the Black-Jewish Women's Dialogue. A lifelong student and scholar, Yugend recently received a master's degree in liberal studies from St. Paul's Hamline University. She earned her bachelor's degree from Metropolitan State University.

Yugend was also the first female president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas. It was during her tenure at the Jewish Community Relations Council that I had the good fortune to work with Marcia. At that time, the Soviet government was actively oppressing people of Jewish faith. Marcia and I worked together to secure the emigration of Soviet Jews and the reunification of families in the Twin Cities. Her spirit and dedication to the cause was truly remarkable.

Shortly after Yugend's passing, the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu made his first trip to the Twin Cities to inaugurate the first Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity. The Humanity prize is given as a living memorial to the Immortal Four Chaplains—a Jewish Rabbi, a Catholic Priest and two Protestant Ministers—who courageously rescued an estimated 230 men from drowning in the sinking of the U.S. Army Transport *Dorchester* during World War II. The Archbishop's historic visit to Twin Cities in celebration of those who have fought to protect others of a different race or religion underlined exactly the type of service and dedication Yugend put forth and could be a fitting tribute to her life and her tireless commitment to promoting interfaith understanding. Although her boundless energy cannot be replaced, her spirit will live on through those she inspired.

Yugend is survived by her husband, Jerome Yugend, daughters Dana Yugend-Pepper of Minneapolis and Julie Yugend-Green of Oak Park, Illinois and five grandchildren.

CELEBRATING THE 81ST ANNIVER- SARY OF LITHUANIAN INDE- PENDENCE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 81st anniversary of the declaration of Lithuanian independence.

For nearly 55 years, Lithuania was occupied by Soviet military forces. But in the past six years, the people of Lithuania have been able to finally enjoy and celebrate the freedoms and privileges of an independent nation.

The United States and Lithuania have now formed a significant partnership between our leaders, our governments, and our people. We have close trade relations with Lithuania. We